

Message Text

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64

ACTION SS-30

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R 220140Z NOV 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1363

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4996

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR UN XF UR

SUB:(US-SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN UNTSO

1. AT SYG'S REQUEST, I TOURED MIDDLE EAST HORIZON WITH HIM FOR AN HOUR LATE NOV 21. ALTHOUGH MUCH OF GROUND WAS FAMILIAR, WALDHEIM DID CONFIRM THAT MALIK STILL PRESSING HARD FOR ADDITIONAL SOV PARTICIPATION (INTERPRETERS) IN UNTSO.

2. WALDHEIM SAID MALIK HAD SPOKEN TO HIM PREVIOUS DAY AND HAD PHONED TWICE TODAY. HE ALSO HAD BEEN AT HIM ON SATURDAY NIGHT. MALIK HAD COMPLAINED THAT POLISH-CANADIAN DISPUTE OVER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN UNEF STILL UNSETTLED, BUT HAD FAIRLY READILY ACCEPTED SYG'S PREDICTION THAT REMAINING DIFFERENCES WOULD BE RESOLVED TODAY. (SYG SAID ONLY MINOR DIFFERENCES REMAINED, ALTHOUGH CANADIAN HAD BEEN DIFFICULT.) ON INTERPRETERS ISSUE, HOWEVER, MALIK HAD BEEN ADAMANT. HE HAD SIMPLY REFUSED TO ACCEPT SYG'S ARGUMENT THAT HE COULD NOT PROCEED IN MATTER BECAUSE HE DID NOT YET HAVE AGREED VERSION OF KISSINGER-DOBRYNIN UNDERSTANDINGS.

3. WALDHEIM REFERRED TO UN SPOKESMAN'S PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING WHICH THERE HAD BEEN SOME MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT REFERENCES TO INSTRUCTIONS TO SIILASVUO RE US AND SOV PARTICIPATION IN UNTSO. I TOLD HIM WE HAD HAD SOME CONCERN
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OVER REPORTED STATEMENTS OF HIS SPOKESMAN. WALDHEIM SAID SIMPLE FACT WAS THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTED IRISH ACTING COMMANDANT OF UNTSO TO SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTEGRATION OF SOV AND US ELEMENTS. THERE WAS NOTHING MORE TO IT. UN

FOR ITS PART FOUND PROSPECT OF INTEGRATING 72 NEW PEOPLE INTO UNTSO DIFFICULT ENOUGH AND WAS NOT ANXIOUS TO SEE NUMBER FURTHER INFLATED. HE SAID HE RECOGNIZED SOVIET TACTIC OF AGREEING TO ONE FIGURE AND THEN TRYING TO ENLARGE IT.

4. MEETING PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO EMPHASIZE SEVERAL TIMES IMPORTANCE US ATTACHED TO MAINTAINING LIMIT OF 36 "POSITIONS" FOR EACH PARTY, AS HAD BEEN AGREED BETWEEN US AND SOVS. I SUGGESTED THAT ALL CONCERNED AVOID SPEAKING OF "OBSERVERS" AND "TRANSLATORS" AND INSTEAD REFER CONSISTENTLY TO 36 "POSITIONS." HOW EACH PARTY FILLED ITS 36 SLOTS WAS ITS OWN BUSINESS, BUT 36 WAS TOTAL.

5. COMMENT: WALDHEIM CAN BE EXPECTED TO RAISE THIS MATTER WITH SECSTATE IN THEIR MEETING SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY.
BENNETT

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